



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**

Indiana Division

575 North Pennsylvania Street, Room 254
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

May 8, 2002
HDA-IN

Mr. J. Bryan Nicol
Commissioner
Indiana Department of Transportation
100 North Senate Avenue, Room N755
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Attention: Mr. Steve Smith

Subject: INDOT 2000-2025 Long Range Plan

Dear Commissioner Nicol:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) has received your letter designating the "INDOT 2000-2005 Long Range Plan: 2001 Update" as the official updated statewide transportation plan. We have completed our review of the plan update, and we agree it satisfies the requirements of 23 CFR 450.214(d). Congratulations on this very significant accomplishment!

We recognize this plan as a historic step for INDOT and the State of Indiana. For the first time in Indiana, the plan provides a project-oriented approach. The placement of specific transportation "expansion" projects and "placeholder" projects into designated time frames will help guide an organized approach to future project development.

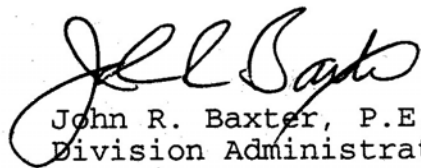
Among the many other plan highlights that deserve special recognition are:

- Public involvement activities, including the Futures Symposium, individualized meetings with INDOT Districts and MPOs, and utilization of the INDOT Program Development Process (PDP).
- Development of the planning level corridor hierarchy, helping define the state highway system and the functionality of the system.
- The application of the TransCAD-based Statewide Travel Demand Model and the Highway Economic Requirements System (HERS_IN) for highway needs analysis.

- Integration of the Interchange Study update to evaluate potential interchange improvement needs.
- INDOT's approach in utilizing the concept of "placeholder" projects, allowing a range of feasible alternatives to be examined in an open, environmentally aware context.

The FHWA Indiana Division is pleased to communicate our acceptance of the INDOT 2000-2025 Long Range Plan, 2001 Update. We congratulate you on your efforts, and we look forward to working with you toward implementation of the plan.

Sincerely yours,



John R. Baxter, P.E.
Division Administrator

CC:

J. Bryan Nicol, INDOT IGC-N755
Vaneeta Kumar, INDOT IGC-N755
David Holtz, INDOT IGC-N808
Janice Osadczuk, INDOT IGC-N848